

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



VOLUME 4

Atlanta, Georgia - October 1938

NUMBER 10

FIRST IMPRESSIONS IMPORTANT

Within the past week I have had two experiences which will serve as the basis for a little sermon (the Editor of the Dixie Ranger asked me to write an editorial!).

Experience No. 1. I called at an office to discuss a matter on which M. had requested some assistance from the Forest Service. Upon entering the outer room where several people were working I glanced about for a lead, found none, and began drifting toward the desk of the least busy appearing employee. A man passed near me and I hailed him, inquiring the whereabouts of M. With a jerk of the thumb my informant indicated a corner room, saying, "He's in there." The room proved to be large, dingy, and cluttered with untidy desks. At one desk sat a young lady, and at another was the man I supposed to be M. Neither paid the slightest attention to me, so I walked over to M.'s desk. He was making notes on a sheet of paper and continued to do so for several moments (it seemed longer) while I stood waiting. Finally he looked up and said, "What can I do for you?" This question always seems to say, "I am a very busy and important person, but if you will make it snappy I may give you a minute or two."

Experience No. 2. I phoned W.'s office saying I would like to talk with him sometime during the forenoon. His secretary told me she was sure W. would be glad to see me. A pleasant young lady met me in the outer office, and when I gave her my name she said, "Mr. W. is expecting you. Go on up." As I left her I noticed that she picked up the telephone. As I got off the elevator W.'s secretary left her desk, greeted me by name, and escorted me into

W.'s office. She had been tipped off by the girl who met me downstairs.

The odd part of the contrast between the two experiences is that I am of no consequence to W. He is the head of a very large and successful business, and I was coming (officially) to ask him to do something. On the other hand, M. is in a public position and I was calling on him because he had asked the Service for assistance. Of course it would not matter who called on either of these men. The effect on the visitor would be the same as in my case. I have been told that W.'s entire organization--several hundred people in the home office, with many branch offices--is trained in the kind of public relations work I noted. If a field office knows a customer is to visit the home office a careful description of the customer is sent in with probable date of arrival. Naturally he is immensely pleased--and somewhat mystified--when the lady at the entrance desk greets him by name. I think this kind of treatment of strangers is worth far more than the effort it requires.

There would be no point in writing about this if all our offices have a system that insures courteous and friendly treatment to visitors. Naturally I mean all visitors, and particularly people looking for jobs. Even agents and peddlers who ignore the "No Soliciting" signs should be shooed out in a tactful way. I doubt that our system generally is very good. The Regional Office cannot be held up as a model in this respect.

First impressions are lasting, and people get first impressions not from the Boss but from the person nearest the outer door. A friendly greeting that makes you feel that you are really welcome often makes you forget that you didn't get what you came for.

Can't we get more personality and friendliness at the contact points?

-- C. F. Evans, Regional Office

- - - -

TWO MORE EMERGENCIES MET BY REGION EIGHT

Shortly before noon Saturday, October 8, Mr. Granger telephoned me requesting the Region to send six men to Boston to report to Mr. E. W. Tinker and assist in fire control and rehabilitation work in the devastated New England hurricane area. Messrs. Paddock, Lamb, Knoch and Hawes of the Regional Office and Assistant Supervisors Overbay and Renshaw of the Pisgah and Cherokee were on their way by train the following day. The men were assigned to the various states, as follows: Knoch, Maine; Lamb, Hawes and Paddock, Vermont; Overbay, Rhode Island; Renshaw, Massachusetts.

About three o'clock Tuesday afternoon, October 11, Mr. Broadbent called and requested the Region to deliver eight passenger cars to Boston for use of the men working in that area. Mr. John E. Black was selected to take charge of the convoy, and Messrs. Malpasse,

Ryan and Crawford were the three other drivers. Four of the cars were towed in four tandem groups. Considerable difficulty was encountered in locating the necessary four towing bars, and in order to make sure that there would be no tie-up because of State laws prohibiting towing cars in this manner, telegrams were sent to ten State Highway Departments requesting permission to convoy through their States. Replies were received from only four of the States on Wednesday due to a number of the State offices being closed on Columbus Day. The convoy left Atlanta at 9:05 a.m. Thursday morning and reached Kings Mountain, North Carolina the first day. Mr. Black reported everything went along smoothly and the convoy should reach Boston Sunday night. Two of the States, namely, New Jersey and Connecticut, would not authorize towing cars through their States, and it was necessary to revise the routing to avoid these States.

-- H. O. Stabler, Regional Office

- - - - -

ALABAMA NEWS

The July issue of the Dixie Ranger carried a story of an incendiary being sentenced to eighteen months for setting a fire on the Mississippi. Not to be outdone by our friends across the line, the Alabama announces a sentence of two years recently imposed upon T. C. Mitchell of Brent, Alabama. The case was tried before Judge Murphy in the Northern District Court at Tuscaloosa. Mitchell pleaded guilty, expecting to get off with the usual light sentence or possibly a reprimand. Then, after the sentence was imposed, the defendant attempted to deny his guilt, but his denial was overruled. The fire trespass occurred on the new addition to the Oakmulgee District, formerly under the supervision of the Resettlement Administration.

- - - - -

A towerman on one of the Alabama 100-ft. towers tells this one about a fox squirrel recently attempting to pay him a visit atop the tower. After ascending in the usual manner, via the steps, the squirrel tried to enter through the window of the tower cab. The slippery window, however, caused him to lose his footing and down he hurtled, approximately 108 feet to the ground. The fall, we are glad to report, was not fatal. After one look around while he seemed to ask, "Where am I?", the friendly little fellow scampered off into the woods again, a little wiser, perhaps, but none the worse off for his experience.

-- G. K. Stephenson, Assistant Supervisor
Alabama National Forest

- - - - -

TRESSPASSERS, BEWARE!

The first game trespass case on the newly established Osceola Wildlife Management Area was tried before Judge Brannon of Columbia County on July 27. The trespasser who plead guilty to carrying fire-arms on the area was sentenced to 30 days in the County Jail. Credit for detection, which included some very clever deduction and investigation goes to Asa T. Coleman, guard, on the Osceola National Forest.

The trespasser entered the area at about dark on July 19 and proceeded to an area about a mile from the road where he shot and killed a cow under grazing permit on the Osceola National Forest. He butchered the animal and sold it to a market in Lake City.

The only clues with which Mr. Coleman had to work were an eye witness to the trespasser entering the area and some very dim auto tire tracks. From this information Mr. Coleman was able to definitely determine that the car which was at the scene of the trespass belonged to the trespasser and that the meat was sold the following morning at a market in Lake City by the trespasser. By careful examination of the head and feet of the animal left at the site of the crime, Mr. Coleman was able to prove that the animal was shot by a 22 rifle, and that the feet came from the carcass which was in cold storage at the market, also that the animal belonged to Mr. L. N. Green. The last deduction was made by finding the ears which had been removed from the head of the animal and thrown into the bushes at some distance, and determining that the markings on these ears were the same as those used by the permittee.

When this evidence was presented to the trespasser he plead guilty and is now serving a sentence for the crime. This trespass case has had a very healthy effect, not only to the persons on the Game Management Area, but in areas adjoining the National Forest where the business of killing cattle belonging to other persons has been a common occurrence. Mr. Coleman's reputation as a detective is firmly established in this section.

-- Paul A. Swarthout, District Ranger
Florida National Forests

- - - - -

PISGAH DEER STORIES

Now that the leaves are changing color and falling from the trees, we on the Pisgah are quite attentive to deer signs, bear signs, and also quite susceptible to acorns and nuts thrown from the top of trees by mischievous squirrels. Soon the woods will ring out with the sound of hunters. Much ammunition will be used, and alas, much wasted in a vain effort to kill a stately buck or a coy doe.

This season of the year makes us who have participated in controlling these hunts reminiscent of past hunts and some of the old stories come to mind. To the best of our knowledge these stories are all true, and though we wouldn't swear on a Bible that they are the Gospel truth we would swear that the hunters who told them swore they were.

First, there is the story of the gallant hunter from Georgia, who after killing his buck (or so he thought) stepped astride of the animal to examine it. Suddenly the buck jumped up and started down the hill, the hunter still on his back. By much manipulation the hunter managed to pull his hunting knife from his pocket and by stabbing the deer made him stumble. At the base of the hill the hunter, by use of his belt, tied the deer to a tree and finally killed him completely. In the ride the hunter lost his watch and tore his clothes.

Another sad but true story is of the hunter from South Carolina who was shown a beautiful buck by his guide. The South Carolinian cracked down; the buck went over the hill, so did the South Carolinian. There on top of the hill stood a deer. Again our friend from South Carolina cracked down and there at his feet lay a small fawn. However, our hats are off to this gentleman. Though he had mistaken the fawn for the buck he had first shot at, he was a good sport and never grumbled. Yes, sir, our hats are off to you, Mr. K!

Then we have the Professor from Tennessee, who, although he was sufficiently unfortunate to fall and break his arm on the first day of the hunt, returned for the second and third days hunting, and by resting his 30-06 in a crotch of a tree patiently waited his deer.

What about the hunter who saw thirty-two deer walking in a line along a ridge. First came the fawns, then the yearling does, then the larger does, then the smaller bucks, then the larger bucks. Our friend tells us he shot the fourth buck, and although it was a very fine deer, four other bucks followed this one, all larger in size and with greater antlers.

Yes, the fall is a great season and the hunting period is the best time of all. But we still believe that after all is said and done, we Forest Service rangers who are assigned as checkers on the Pisgah Big Game Hunt really have the choice seats for this great show.

-- W. W. Huber, Pisgah National Forest

- - - -

IMPROVEMENT THINNINGS

The Division of Silvics, U. S. Forest Service, has released Translation No. 310, "Improvement Thinnings for the Production of Select Lumber and Construction Timber" by H. Lubisch. This is a translation from a German article appearing in the 1935 Forstarchiv.

Definite instructions are presented for the treatment of pine stands in Germany so as to produce select lumber stems free of knots and secondarily suitable construction timber. The instructions are far in advance of any improvement cutting operations carried on in our southern pines. That the German foresters are considering the aesthetic effects of marking for thinnings and other improvement cuttings is shown by the following statement:

"Glaring marks of white or yellow paint on future stems mars the forest picture; for pine rust-brown is the most suitable color, which is besides easily recognizable."

The translation contains information of value to foresters interested in intensive forest improvement practices.

-- G. H. Lentz, Regional Office

- - - -

COVER APPEAL

The University of Georgia has sponsored an attractive bulletin entitled "Forest Management in Georgia." This material was prepared by DuPre Barrett and A. R. Shirley, Extension Foresters for the State of Georgia. This bulletin is particularly attractive in that the cover is a color photograph of an excellent stand of pine. This new method of dressing up the outside appearance of a publication is a big improvement on the drab, unattractive covers that fill our libraries. I am glad that public agencies are taking the hint from commercial publishers who have long recognized the appeal created by colorful "jackets".

The authors have continued their excellent work in the text, which is well illustrated with very good photographs. The title is somewhat of a misnomer in that the material presented is more of a series of suggestions to guide landowners in better forest practices throughout the State, rather than a treatise on the detail management of forest properties, which the title implies. The emphasis is placed on reforestation, with subsequent hints on thinning and pulpwood sales, and on protection.

It is believed this publication is very timely and will reach many people through its attractive cover and excellent presentation of the subject matter.

-- E. T. Hawes, Regional Office

CARIBBEAN NOTES

CCC--A recent fifth year anniversary celebration held at Camp Buena Vista I-1 was attended by 892 visitors from all parts of the Island. Basketball and volley ball were played with teams from nearby towns, local mayors made speeches, municipal bands played and much roast pig was consumed.

Law Enforcement.--Yes, we have no bananas, but last week Ranger Thurmond sent to jail for three months the misguided jibaros who stole 'em from our forest.

Wildlife.--Our Luquillo ranger recently captured, bottle fed for five weeks and then transplanted to the Toro Negro Unit, four squalling young Luquillo Green Parrots.

Communication.--Our Rio Piedras Headquarters radio station last month transmitted 663 messages containing an average of 12 words each to and from our CCC camps. Each camp has its hourly radio schedule with Headquarters. There are no phones or telegraphs in the mountains here.

Our CCC camps recently harvested over 3,000 pounds of coffee from abandoned plantations on recently acquired land.

-- E. W. Hadley, Forest Supervisor,
Caribbean National Forest

- - - - -

FOREST FARMING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Every farm needs fuelwood, fence posts and construction timbers for home use. Every farm needs an easily cared for crop that will make profitable use of the poorer lands and waste spaces not suitable or needed for cultivated crops or improved pastures. A simple and dependable method of meeting all of these farm needs is provided by that important but neglected branch of farm work called "forest farming".

Forest farming may be defined as the deliberate and intelligent management of woodlands and waste or idle lands for the continuous production of valuable timber products as a farm crop. It can be used to advantage by nearly every farm owner to provide timber products for home consumption, to restore soil fertility and prevent erosion, to improve the appearance and sale value of the farm, to furnish supplementary income and employment for spare time, and to give the farm family greater financial security and a more comfortable standard of living.

To the farmers of South Carolina, forest farming offers exceptional opportunities for attaining these desirable objectives. Few states have more favorable timber growing and marketing conditions. In few, if any, other states is it possible to produce such a wide variety of valuable forest products so profitably.

Nearly one-half of the total area of South Carolina farms is woodland--5,700,000 acres of it. If we add to this large areas of worn out crop land that is too steep, too badly eroded, or too unproductive for profitable cultivation and is now largely abandoned, it is easily possible that as much as two-thirds of the farm land in the state may be found to be better suited for timber crops than for any other use.

By adopting as good methods of woodland management as they use in producing their cultivated crops, "forest farmers" can easily increase their average annual returns from timber products to a minimum of \$1.00 per acre under the most adverse conditions and to as much as \$10.00 per acre or even more under the favorable conditions found in many parts of South Carolina.

It has been estimated that the cultural woods work required to produce a maximum harvest of valuable pine timber, starting with the reforestation of open land by planting, will average less than one hour per acre per year. This includes the work of preparing the site and planting the trees, weeding and pruning the young stand, marking the trees to be removed in periodic thinnings to give the better trees room to expand, and marking the high grade trees of the final stand for selective harvesting as they reach a mature size and rate of growth. It is thus apparent that spare time spent on woodland cultural work has a high earning power in the creation of future timber values.

By promptly taking steps to stock such lands with valuable, thrifty trees, and by investing a small amount of spare time in protecting and helping these trees to grow to best advantage, South Carolina farmers can greatly benefit themselves and their families and can, at the same time, increase the general prosperity of their communities and of the state as a whole, by means of forest farming.

-- Donald R. Brewster, Extension Forester,
Clemson College, South Carolina

- - - -

A NEW BOOK

Mr. William Atherton DuPuy's book, THE NATION'S FORESTS, just off the MacMillan press, is resplendant pictorially. Mr. DuPuy traveled the southern region in the summer of 1938 gathering material for this book, prepared under the auspices of the Forest Service.

Regarding southern forestry, it states, "The nation's most striking success in growing trees as a crop is just now demonstrating itself in the southern states. In that vast stretch of pine land between Virginia and Texas trees grow so quickly to pulpwood size that mills can take steps to produce the timber that will guarantee their continuing prosperity. The Forest Service is endeavoring to induce the owners of these Gulf Coast lands to give them the degree of care that will keep them covered with growing

trees. They are responding enthusiastically and the promise is for a continuing harvest through the decades to come."

The book tells the story of the march of the lumbermen from east to west, of the slaughter of the forests, of the neglect of lands that had grown them. It sets up the principles of proper cutting for sustained yield, of understanding handling to prevent erosion, of thought that millions may find recreation in the national forests and that wildlife may survive. "Getting idle land into production is a problem that calls loudly for immediate solution," says Mr. DuPuy, and he emphasizes the potential values of those possible forests that are not growing, which is clear loss to the nation.

A copy of Mr. DuPuy's book has been placed in the Regional Library.

- - - -

CCC RATES IN THE TAR HEEL STATE

The following letter was received the date of disbandment of a junior white company in North Carolina:

"Maj. Gen. George H. Van Moseley
Commander of the Fourth Corps CCC
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Sir:

Why did you bust up the Alamance C.C.C. camp here in Burlington? It was one of the best camps here in N.C. The paper said it was up to you to decide whether they should stay or leave. I know what decision you made, because I saw the boys leaving early this morning. This town certainly will be dull now, not any of us girls will care to go to the shows anymore. We went to the farewell dance last night.

Please send them back to this camp.

A group of girls."

All you Forest Service boys! It will be too obvious to check your annual leave for a few days.

-- Burton Graham, Regional Office

- - - -

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS

U. S. Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: Agricultural Extension Agent, \$2,900 a Year; Assistant Agricultural Extension Agent, \$2,600 a Year, Indian Field Service, Department of Interior, applications to be on file not later than November 7, 1938; also, Multilith Operator (for appointment in Washington, D.C., only) \$1,440 a Year, applications to be on file with Civil Service Commission at Washington not later than November 14, 1938.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Harold M. Stratton of the Alabama has been assigned to head up fire control activities on those units.

Peter J. Ceremello, Kisatchie, as Jr. Forester, has been given a position on the planting staff in the regular forest organization.

Thomas W. Brooks, Chattahoochee, has been promoted to a regular position and assigned as acting assistant ranger on the Tallulah District.

Thomas W. McKinley, of the regional office division of State and Private Forestry, has been transferred to South Carolina State on cooperative forest management work.

The following transfers have taken place: Kermit W. Hodgins, Chattahoochee, to Wambaw District, South Carolina & Croatan, as ranger assistant; Edwin P. Ahern, Alabama, from Talladega to Black Warrior; Ivan J. Nicholas, Texas, from Angelina to Crockett; Kenneth J. Lane, from Ozark to Ouachita; Herbert Kulp, Florida, from Choc-tawhatchee to the supervisor's office; Henry W. Hughes, from Ouachita to Mississippi; Gaines E. Turner, Mississippi, from Biloxi to Leaf River; Raymond A. Dalton, Cherokee, from the supervisor's office to the Tellico District.

Edward B. McIntyre, Cherokee, David H. Hanaburgh, Texas, and Frank B. Hotard, Louisiana State, have recently been furloughed.

Resignations have been tendered by Lawrence E. Howard and Annette M. Weller, Florida, Howard P. Blount, Georgia State, and Bonnie L. Capps, Ozark.

The September "Reader's Digest" contains an article, condensed from Harper's magazine, entitled "The Ceiling Over the Head of Industry," by Roy Helton, in which it is contended that what we need most in the new America being born is not more mechanical development but more teachers and nurses, more doctors and dentists, more surgeons, more scientists studying the problems of life and health, more foresters and bigger forests for them to work in, more cabinet makers, and more

hand-wrought things--not less machinery but more civilization, and a realization that it is not jobs that make needs, but needs that make jobs. The author refers to the demand for decentralization of industry, national forests, better game laws, etc., as giving a hint that people are discovering how to use the time they have won through the mechanical conquest of nature, and of the possibilities of life in a better and more contented world.

-- Northern Region News

- - - - -
THE LOOKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher spent October 5 with Secretary Wallace, Assistant Secretary Brown, Budget Officer Jump and Congressman Tarver in north Georgia.

Mr. Kircher also spent two days on a trip accompanying Governor Rivers, State Forester Heyward, and others.

Messrs. Granger, Kneipp and Norcross are spending a month in the Region. They are being accompanied by Mr. Kircher and various other Regional Office men on their trip throughout the region.

Among the visitors to the Regional Office have been: R. E. McArdle, Messrs. Hill and Hicks, Appalachian Station, E. L. Demmon, I. F. Eldredge, A. R. Spillers and R. M. Winters, Southern Station. T. L. Raney, District Forester, Florida Forest Service, Jacksonville; C. A. Gillett, State Forester, Arkansas; P. B. McWhorter, Little Rock; Frank Heyward, State Forester, Russell Franklin, Joel Rice, Jack Thurmond and H. C. Carruth, Georgia Division of Forestry; Brooks Toler, Extension Forester, State College, Mississippi; Charles E. Smith, Champion Paper and Fibre Company, Canton, N.C.; E. A. Sterling, Riegel Paper Company, Wilmington, N. C.; C. P. Cuthbert, West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, Charleston, S.C.; John D. Guthrie, Washington Office.

Two motorcades to the Chattahoochee National Forest were sponsored by the Regional Office of I & E during the month of October and proved to be highly successful. Sunday, October 16, the Atlanta Newspaper Photographers, representing the Journal, Constitution and Georgian, spent the day touring the Forest. The Fifth District General Federation of Women's Clubs made a two-day tour of the Forest, October 20-21, spending the night at Vogel State Park. Charlie Elliott, Director of State Parks, and Charlie Morgan, of the State Division of Wildlife, addressed the group at Vogel Park, and L. L. Bishop, Assistant Regional Forester, spoke to the party at Lake Winfield Scott.

